

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of diagnosing disease of bacterial or fungal origin in a subject, wherein said disease is pneumonia or sepsis, which method comprises the ~~step~~ steps of
 - (a) measuring the a level of ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor in a biological sample obtained from said subject;
 - (b) comparing the measured level of the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor in the sample with a mean level in a control population of individuals not having disease of bacterial or fungal origin;
 - (c) correlating elevated levels of the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor with the presence or extent of said disease of bacterial or fungal origin.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said step of measuring the level of ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor comprises the steps of:
 - (a) contacting said biological sample with a compound capable of binding ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor;
 - (b) detecting the level of ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor present in the sample by observing the level of binding between said compound and ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of measuring the level of ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor in a second or further sample from said subject, the first and second or further samples being obtained at different times; and comparing the levels in the samples to indicate the progression or remission of the disease of bacterial or fungal origin.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is selected from the group consisting of whole blood, blood serum, blood, plasma, urine and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid.
9. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the sample is from bronchoalveolar lavage fluid.
10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the sample is from blood serum or blood plasma.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is a human sample.
12. (Withdrawn) A compound capable of binding sTREM-1 for use in the diagnosis, prognosis, monitoring of the treatment of disease of bacterial or fungal origin.
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Withdrawn) A method of identifying agonists or antagonists of sTREM-1, said method comprising comparing the level of binding in a sample containing said sTREM-1 and a compound capable of binding sTREM-1 in the presence and absence of a compound to be tested.
15. (Withdrawn) An agonist or antagonist of sTREM-1 identified according to the method of claim 14.

16. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising at least one compound capable of binding sTREM-1 and reagents for detecting binding of said compound to sTREM-1 for use in the diagnosis of disease of bacterial or fungal origin.
17. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising at least one compound capable of binding sTREM-1 and means for contacting said compound with a sample containing sTREM-1 for use in the diagnosis of disease of bacterial or fungal origin.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said compound specifically binds ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor.
19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said compound capable of binding ~~sTREM-1~~ the soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor is an antibody raised against all or part of the TREM-1 receptor.
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the level of ~~sTREM-1~~ soluble form of the human TREM-1 receptor is measured by an immunochemical technique.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 comprising the additional step of measuring the level of TREM-1-Ligand in one or more biological samples obtained from said subject.